

Response
Application No. 10/808,306
Attorney Docket No. 042273

REMARKS

Claims 1-13 are pending in the present application. Reconsideration in view of the following comments is respectfully requested. It is submitted that this Response is fully responsive to the outstanding Office Action dated June 4, 2007.

Allowable Subject Matter:

Applicants gratefully acknowledge the indication that claims 1-5, 12 and 13 have been allowed as indicated in item 3 of the Action.

Applicants also gratefully acknowledge the indication in item 4 of the Action that claims 7-10 would be allowable if amended in independent form to include the features of the base and any intervening claims.

However, for at least the reasons set forth below, it is respectfully submitted that all of the pending claims, 1-13, are believed to be allowable.

As to the Merits:

As to the merits of this case, the Examiner sets forth the following rejection:

claims 6 and 11 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. §102(e) as being anticipated by Osada et al. (U.S. Patent No. 7,148,925).

This rejection is respectfully traversed.

Independent claim 6 calls for *a pre-processing means for treating a plurality of chromatically identical color imaging signals with keeping color space of the color filter contained in a predetermined region as one unit to compute spatial frequency components in the one unit with a linear operation.*

For example, from the linear operation shown in Formula 3, on page 20 of the present application, the ratio of the number of components in each data group (R', G', B') becomes 1:2:1: and is not different from the ratio of color data in the input data (R, G, B). Accordingly, the total number of components in image data groups R', G', B' becomes equal to the total number of input data. Based on the above operation, since each component of each data group can be obtained as one at a spatially equivalent location, a correlation for each color can be achieved and it is possible to suppress degradation of image quality due to compression at the image compression means 2.

With regard to claim 6, the Examiner asserts that the Osada reference discloses the following:

pre-processing means for treating a plurality of chromatically identical color imaging signals with keeping color space of the color filter contained in a predetermined region as one unit to compute spatial frequency components in the one unit with a linear operation (see figures 1 and 5, element 36c, and refer to example to column 11, line 16 through column 12, line 3).

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However, according to the disclosure in column 11, the Osada reference calls for the following:

As shown, the broadband signal processor 36c includes a high frequency processor 360c, a chrominance matrix 362c, an antialiasing filter 364c, and a chroma corrector 366c. The high frequency processor 360c adds a high frequency component to each of R, G and B pixel data 362B.

... the chrominance matrix 362c generates luminance data Y and chrominance data (R-Y) and (B-y) which are extended in frequency band, in accordance with the plane pixel data R, G and B (362F).

... The antialiasing filter 364c prevents aliasing distortion from occurring in the input data 362G, 362H and 362I with respect to frequency.

... The chroma corrector is implemented by, e.g., a transversal filter and makes up for the fall of response of the input data 362J, which is representative of the luminance data Y, in the high frequency range.

In view of the above disclosure, it is respectfully submitted that the Osada reference is simply not concerned with **computing spatial frequency components with a linear operation**, as called for in claim 6.

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Instead, the broadband signal processor 36 of FIG. 5 is concerning with adding a high frequency component to each of the R, G, and B pixel data, generating luminous data Y and chrominance data (R-Y) and (B-Y) which are extended in the frequency band, preventing aliasing distortion from occurring in the input data 362G, 362H and 362I with respect to frequency and correcting the luminance data Y in the high frequency range.

As such, it is respectfully submitted that Osada is completely silent with regard to computing spatial frequency components in the one unit with a linear operation.

Accordingly, it is respectfully submitted that Osada fails to disclose or fairly suggest the features of claim 6 concerning *a pre-processing means for treating a plurality of chromatically identical color imaging signals with keeping color space of the color filter contained in a predetermined region as one unit to compute spatial frequency components in the one unit with a linear operation.*

In view of the above remarks, Applicants submit that the present claimed invention is in condition for allowance. Applicants request such action at an early date.

If the Examiner believes that this application is not now in condition for allowance, the Examiner is requested to contact Applicants' undersigned attorney to arrange for an interview to expedite the disposition of this case.

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If this paper is not timely filed, Applicants respectfully petition for an appropriate extension of time. The fees for such an extension or any other fees that may be due with respect to this paper may be charged to Deposit Account No. 50-2866.

Respectfully submitted,
WESTERMAN, HATTORI, DANIELS & ADRIAN, LLP

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'TEB', is written over the firm name.

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